

Applicant : Nagura
Appl. No. :
Examiner :
Docket No. : 703409.4001

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

[0010] A first invention is the container comprising: a container main body having a roof plate and a left/right pair of side wall plates, a bottom plate, and a front door and a rear door which open and close a front end portion and a rear end portion of said container main body, characterized in that said container main body is relatively displaceable with respect to said bottom plate in a front-rear direction of said bottom plate from a neutral reference position, in which said container main body is aligned with said bottom plate, between a bottom plate front portion exposed position, in which said container main body is positioned rearward of said bottom plate such that a front portion of said bottom plate is exposed from said container main body, and a bottom plate rear portion exposed position, in which said container main body is positioned frontward of said bottom plate such that a rear portion of said bottom plate is exposed from said container main body.

Please replace the paragraph [0011] with the following amended paragraph:

[0011] With the container of this invention, when the container main body is positioned in the bottom plate front portion exposed position, the front portion of the cargo is fixed to the bottom plate, and when the container main body is positioned in the bottom plate rear portion exposed position, the rear portion of the cargo is fixed to the bottom plate. This applies similarly when the front portion and rear portion of the cargo are released from the bottom plate. Transportation is performed when the container main body is positioned in the neutral position.

Please replace the paragraph [0015] with the following amended paragraph:

[0015] A second invention is the container comprising: a container main body having a roof plate and a left/right pair of side wall plates, a bottom plate, and a front door and a rear door which open and close a front end portion and a rear end portion of said container main body, characterized in that said container main body is displaceable with

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respect to said bottom plate in a front-rear direction of said bottom plate from a neutral reference position, in which said container main body is aligned with said bottom plate, between a bottom plate front portion exposed position, in which said container main body is positioned rearward of said bottom plate such that a front portion of said bottom plate is exposed from said container main body, and a bottom plate rear portion exposed position, in which said container main body is positioned frontward of said bottom plate such that a rear portion of said bottom plate is exposed from said container main body.

Please replace the paragraph [0018] with the following amended paragraph:

[0018] In this container, the container main body is displaceable, and therefore the container main body is displaced in relation to the bottom plate from the neutral reference position between the bottom plate front portion exposed position and the bottom plate rear portion exposed position by displacing the container main body rather than by displacing the bottom plate. Hence with this invention, there is no need to perform a difficult operation to displace the bottom plate, particularly when a heavy object such as an automobile is carried on the bottom plate, and cargo such as an automobile can be easily housed and removed.

Please replace the paragraph [0019] with the following amended paragraph:

[0019] A third invention is the container of the first or second invention, characterized in that each of said pair of side wall plates comprises an upper portion side wall plate and a lower portion side wall plate rotatably connected at a rotating portion, each of said upper portion side wall plates is rotatable about said roof plate, each of said lower portion side wall plates is rotatable about said bottom plate, said container main body is displaceable between a base state, in which each of said side wall plates is substantially vertical and said roof plate is separated from said bottom plate, and a folded state, in which each of said side wall plates is folded inward at said rotating portion such that said roof plate moves close to said bottom plate, and said front door and said rear door are displaceable between a base state, in which said front door and

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said rear door are substantially vertical and close said front end portion and said rear end portion of said container main body, and a folded state, in which said front door and said rear door overlap said bottom plate or said roof plate.

Please replace the paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] A fourth invention is the container of any of the first through third inventions, characterized in that said front door and/or said rear door is/are rotatably connected to said front end portion and/or said rear end portion of said bottom plate, and said front door and/or said rear door is/are displaceable between a base state, in which said front door and/or said rear door is/are substantially vertical and closes said front end portion and/or said rear end portion of said container main body, and an insertion/removal state, in which said front door and/or said rear door connect(s) said front end portion and/or said rear end portion of said bottom plate with a loading surface that is exterior to said bottom plate, on which surface cargo is supported.

Please replace the paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] With this container, the flexible fixing member is disposed along at least the upper end portion of the automobile tire, and using this as a reference, one side of the circumferential-direction linear member is fixed to the first fixing member, while the other side is fixed to the second fixing member.

Please replace the paragraph [0046] with the following amended paragraph:

[0046] Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the container according to an embodiment of the present invention in the base state, in which a container main body is in a bottom plate front portion exposed position (the bottom plate is in a front portion exposed state);

Please replace the paragraph [0052] with the following amended paragraph:

[0052] Fig. 8A is a side view showing the container according to an embodiment of the present invention in use, in which the container main body is in the bottom plate front portion exposed position (the bottom plate is in the front portion exposed state);

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Please replace the paragraph [0053] with the following amended paragraph:

[0053] Fig. 8B is a side view showing the container according to an embodiment of the present invention in use, in which the container main body is in a bottom plate rear portion exposed position (the bottom plate is in a rear portion exposed state);

Please replace the paragraph [0070] with the following amended paragraph:

[0070] In other words, the container main body 10 can be displaced from a neutral reference position (Fig. 1A), in which the position of the container main body 10 and the position of the bottom plate 70 match in the length direction (front-rear direction) of the two, between a bottom plate front portion exposed position (Figs. 2, 8A), in which the container main body 10 is positioned rearward of the neutral position such that a front portion of the bottom plate 70 is exposed, and a bottom plate rear portion exposed position (Fig. 8B), in which the container main body 10 is positioned forward of the neutral position such that a rear portion of the bottom plate 70 is exposed. When the container main body 10 is in the bottom plate front portion exposed position, the bottom plate 70 will be described as being in a front portion exposed state, and when the container main body 10 is in the bottom plate rear portion exposed position, the bottom plate 70 will be described as being in a rear portion exposed state.

Please replace the paragraph [0087] with the following amended paragraph:

[0087] As shown in Fig. 2, when the container main body 10 is in the predetermined bottom plate front portion exposed position, the front door 80A is displaceable from the base state between the folded state and the insertion/removal state. When the container main body 10 is in the bottom plate front portion exposed position, the rear door 80B can only be positioned in the insertion/removal state. This applies similarly to the other door (rear door 80B, front door 80A) when the container main body 10 is in the (predetermined) bottom plate rear portion exposed position.

Please replace the paragraph [0104] with the following amended paragraph:

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[0104] When an automobile 200 serving as cargo is to be housed in the container, the container main body 10 is first set in the base state, as shown in Figs. 1A and 3. In other words, the two side wall plates 20 are set in a substantially vertical and parallel state and the roof plate 60 is separated from the bottom plate 70.

Please replace the paragraph [0106] with the following amended paragraph:

[0106] Next, the bolts 38 (see Figs. 1A and 5) are removed and the container main body 10 is moved rearward from the neutral position such that the bottom plate 70 is set in the front portion exposed state, as shown in Figs. 2 and 8A.

Please replace the paragraph [0117] with the following amended paragraph:

[0117] As shown in Fig. 8B, the front door 80A and rear door 80B are removed from the front end portion and rear end portion of the container main body 10 and are set in the insertion/removal state (see Fig.7). The bolts 38 (see Figs. 1A and 5) are then removed and the container main body 10 is moved forward from the neutral position such that the bottom plate 70 is set in the rear portion exposed state. In this state, the flexible fixing member 100 (see Figs. 9 through 11) is removed from the pair of rear tires 210B of the automobile 200 such that the rear tires 210B are released from the bottom plate 70. The auxiliary fixing device 120 (see Figs. 9 and 10) is also removed from the bottom plate 70.

Please replace the paragraph [0124] with the following amended paragraph:

[0124] As described above, when the container is to be fixed to the bottom plate 70 (container) while housing the automobile 200 as cargo, the container main body 10 is positioned rearward of the neutral position such that the bottom plate 70 is set in the front portion exposed state, the front tires 210A are fixed to the bottom plate 70 (Fig. 8A), the container main body 10 is positioned forward of the neutral position such that the bottom plate 70 is set in the rear portion exposed state, and the rear tires

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210B are fixed to the bottom plate 70 (Fig. 8B). A similar operation is performed to release the rear tires 210B and front tires 210A from the bottom plate 70.

Please replace the paragraph [0125] with the following amended paragraph:

[0125] Hence, the operations to fix and release the automobile 200 to and from the interior of the container are performed easily. In other words, the container main body 10 (i.e. the left and right side wall plates 20 and so on) does not cause an obstruction during operations to respectively fix and release the automobile 200 (i.e. the front tires 210A, and the rear tires 210B) to and from the bottom plate 70.

Please replace the paragraph [0134] with the following amended paragraph:

[0134] Also at this time, one of the front door (80A) and rear door (80B) may be fixed to the substantially horizontal bottom plate (70) in a substantially right-angled state (in other words, a substantially vertical state). In this case, a special mechanism is required on the door. For example, when the front door (80A) is fixed to the bottom plate (70) in this manner, the front door (80A) must be made bendable or the like about a horizontal bending portion (hinge) at a midway position in the height direction such that the front door (80A) does not cause an obstruction when the container main body (20 10) is displaced toward the rear portion exposed position.